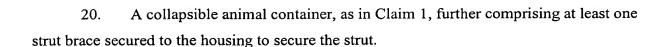
## What is claimed is:

- 1. A collapsible animal container, comprising:
- (a) a flexible material housing comprising a top wall, a bottom wall, a pair of end walls, and a pair of sidewalls;
- (b) a pair of support members in the housing, with each support member positioned adjacent an opposing wall of the housing, and each support member having a peripheral shape substantially corresponding to the opposing walls of the housing against which each support member is positioned; and
- (c) at least one strut secured between the support members to maintain the opposing support members in a separated position and to support the housing.
- 2. A flexible collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the support member comprising a rigid panel.
- 3. A flexible collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the support member comprising a peripheral frame.
- 4. A flexible collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising a door in at least one of the end walls and the sidewalls.
- 5. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 2, with the door comprising a mesh material.
- 6. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising at least one window in at least one of the sidewalls and the end walls.
- 7. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 6, with the at least one window comprising a mesh material.
- 8. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, wherein the rigid panels are integral with the housing.

- 9. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the sidewalls comprising the pair of rigid panels.
- 10. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the end walls comprising the pair of rigid panels.
- 11. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the top wall and the bottom wall comprising the pair of rigid panels.
- 12. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, further comprising at least one of the sidewalls and the bottom walls are acutely angled to the bottom wall.
- 13. A flexible collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, with the at least one strut comprising a rod having end caps secured to each end of the rod.
- 14. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, the rod comprising a telescoping rod.
- 15. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, with the at least one end cap comprising a telescoping end cap.
- 16. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 13, at least one end cap comprising a extendable threaded end cap.
- 17. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 1, the at least one strut comprising a rod having end cap secured to the rod at a first end of the rod and a hinge secured to the rod at a second end of the rod, the hinge attached to at least one of a rigid panel and a wall to allow the rod to pivot.
- 18. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 17, the end cap comprising a telescoping end cap.
- 19. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 17, the end cap comprising a extendable threaded end cap.



- 21. A collapsible animal container, as in Claim 20, the strut brace comprising a peelable fastener.
  - 22. A collapsible animal container, comprising a means for housing an animal;a means for supporting the means for housing; and a means for separating the means for supporting.
  - 23. A method for transporting an animal, comprising the steps of:

    providing a collapsible animal container, comprising a flexible material
    housing comprising a floor, a ceiling and opposing sidewalls with a closable opening
    for access in at least one of the sidewalls, a pair of rigid panels within the housing, the
    rigid panels being collapsible toward one another, and at least one struts between the
    rigid panels supporting the housing;

placing the flexible collapsible animal container within a vehicle; and placing an animal within the flexible collapsible animal container.

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